United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Northeastern Area State & Private Forestry | 180 Canfield Street Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3410 (NA-14-02)
Date: October 1, 2014

Subject: 2014 Emerald Ash Borer Detection Surveys

To: Edward W. Clark, Superintendent
Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site
1195 Baltimore Pike, Suite 100
Gettysburg, PA 17325-2804

The emerald ash borer (EAB) was first detected in Pennsylvania in 2007. To assess whether EAB was present at the Gettysburg National Military Park (GNMP), purple panel detection traps were deployed during the 2014 flight season (May-September; Figure 1).

I am sorry to report that multiple emerald ash borer adults were collected during this year's survey. The emerald ash borer is an invasive beetle that has been found throughout Pennsylvania, New York, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Missouri, Minnesota, Virginia, Wisconsin and West Virginia. Since its accidental introduction sometime in the late 1990s, this beetle has caused millions of dollars in damage to ash trees across the Midwest, and has produced wide-ranging quarantines and regulations on movement of ash trees and firewood in the hopes of preventing further spread. The emerald ash borer impacts all North American species of ash trees, and may be spread over long distances through the transport of trees and wood products, such as nursery stock and firewood. This is the first detection of EAB in Adams County.

The GNMP should be developing a management plan for EAB, now that the beetle has been detected at the Park. Based on the difficulty in detecting this insect it is likely that the beetle is already active on ash trees within the Park. We ask that all Park personnel continue to monitor ash trees for any evidence of EAB activity (e.g. declining ash, wood pecker activity on ash) and report any activity to the Morgantown Field Office.

I personally would also like to extend my appreciation to Randy Krichten for his valuable assistance in this survey. If you or any of your staff have any questions or comments regarding this survey, please contact Rick Turcotte at (304) 285-1544.

Sincerely,

Al Steck, Acting For

ROBERT LUECKEL
Field Representative
Morgantown Field Office

Cc: Randy Krichten, Biological Science Technician

RMT/AKS

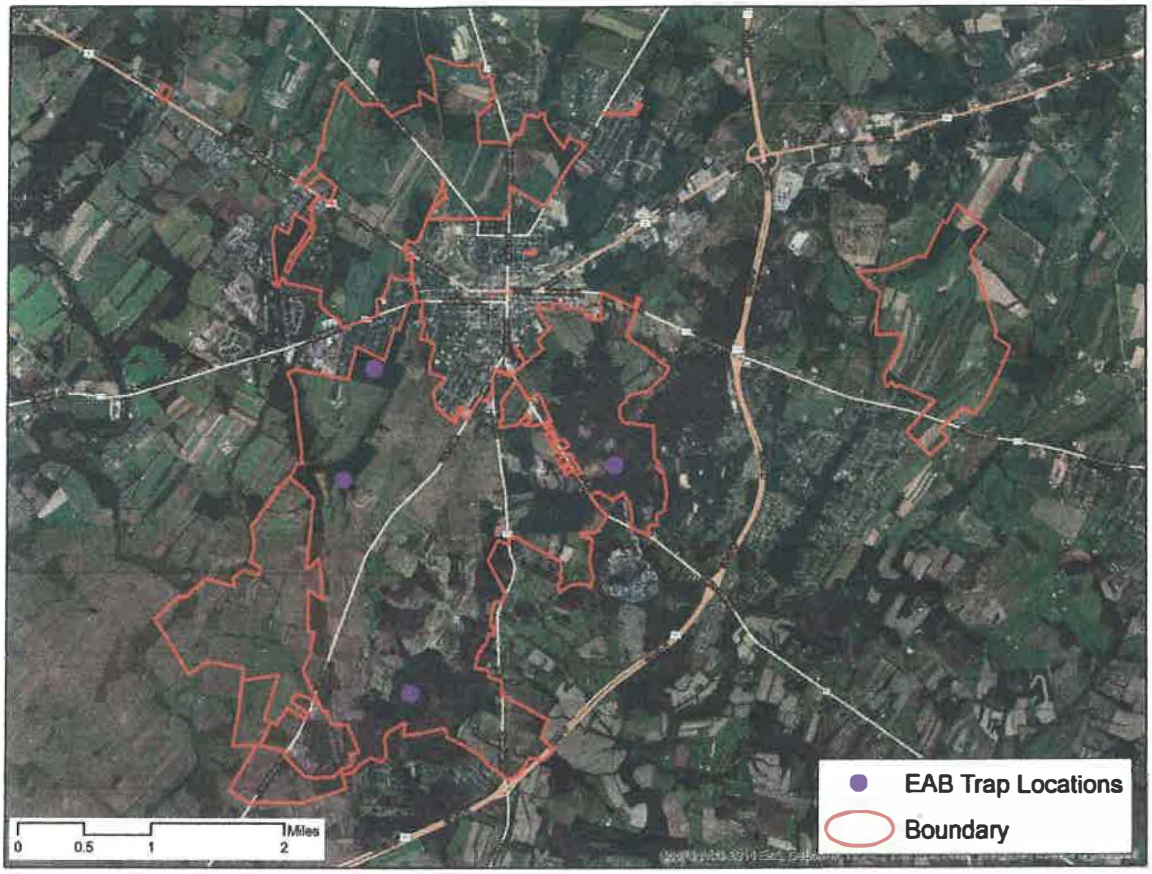

Figure 1. Locations of emerald ash borer traps within the Gettysburg National Military Park.